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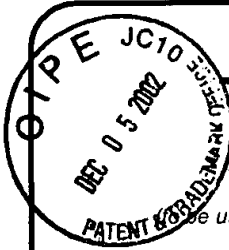
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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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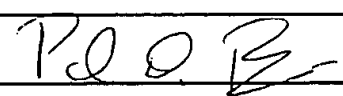
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 <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <small>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</small>	<b>Application Number</b>	09/988,954	
	<b>Filing Date</b>	11/21/2001	
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	P. Bonutti	
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	3738	
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	P. Prebilio	
<b>Total Number of Pages in This Submission</b>	66	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	780-A02-006-11

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